

NASA Success Story

Florida/NASA Business Incubation Center (FNBIC)



The Florida/NASA Business Incubation Center (FNBIC) was created to assist entrepreneurs and small businesses by offering office space at a reduced cost and providing business assistance to tenants. Located near NASA's Kennedy Space Center at the Titusville campus of Brevard Community College, the Incubation Center offers business office suites, professional service advisors, and use of KSC technical expertise and laboratories. The Incubator's concept is to both assist small technology-based companies in getting started and to help transfer NASA technology to the commercial market. To date, four license agreements have been signed between NASA and center clients to commercialize KSC-developed technologies.

NASA Involvement A Space Act Agreement signed on June 12, 1996 formalized the FNBIC partnership. NASA-KSC, Brevard Community College, and the State of Florida's Technological Research and Development Authority (TRDA) are partners. The KSC Technology Programs and Commercialization Office has an Incubator program manager who coordinates technology transfer and commercialization with the center.

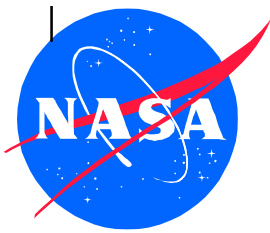
Social/Economic Benefit The benefits to Incubation Center tenants include assisting early stage, technology-based entrepreneurs by offering office space at a reduced cost and providing management assistance to enhance the possibility of a business succeeding. The Center offers a 10,000 square-foot facility with 19 office suites and shared administrative support. At present, 10 businesses occupy offices and 12 off-site technology-based companies are affiliated with the Center. Benefits to the community include a direct technology transfer and commercialization of new products, including software and hardware, to the commercial sector, and the creation of high-

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Florida/NASA Business Incubation Center (FNBIC) (Continued)

wage jobs. One such company, Netlander, Inc. has acquired a NASA license for a web-based data distribution software system that is currently monitoring the Space Shuttle. Another, Titusville Industries, has licensed Kennedy Space Center turbine brush cleaning technology designed to reduce solvents and cut costs. Recently, Command and Control Technologies, Inc., using NASA-licensed software, won a \$1.2 million contract with the Alaskan Aerospace Development Corp. creating 16 new jobs. Successful graduate companies include Infotech Systems, Inc., of Melbourne, Florida. Infotech markets inventory control software, including MS Windows graphical user interface software for manufacturing companies. The product consists of various modules from order entry to shipping and receiving. Daycare Products, another recent graduate software company, started at the center and quickly expanded to ten employees based on the success of its childcare security software products. The company now occupies 2,500 square feet of its own space in Titusville, Florida. In addition, several on-site businesses have formed a strategic alliance called the Healthcare Information Systems Team to pool their resources in providing a software product for the health care industry.

Industry Partner

Florida/NASA Business Incubation Center

NASA Partner

Kennedy Space Center
National Technology Transfer Center

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